



# TWIN CITIES METRO AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGION 11

**Covers counties:**

Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey  
Scott, and Washington

## 2020 REGIONAL PROFILE

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## DEMOGRAPHICS

### POPULATION CHANGE

The Twin Cities Metro Area planning region includes a total of seven counties, covering one Economic Development Region (EDR 11) and six Workforce Development Boards (WDBs). In sum, the Metro Area was home to 3,118,648 people in 2019, comprising 55.6% of the state's total population. The region's population grew by 9.4% over the past nine years, adding approximately 269,000 people. In comparison, the State of Minnesota witnessed a 6.3% population gain (see Table 1).

Between 2010 and 2019, all seven counties in the metro witnessed population increases. Hennepin County, Minnesota's most populous county, gained the most people between 2010 and 2019. In fact, by adding over 113,000 people during that nine-year period, Hennepin County accounted for 42.2% of the Metro Area's total growth, and just over one-third of the state's total growth. Meanwhile, Carver County and Scott County were the fastest- and second-fastest growing counties in the state between 2010 and 2019. Washington County has also witnessed very rapid population growth since 2010 (Table 1).

### COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

The Twin Cities Metro Area has experienced a natural increase – more births than deaths – of over 183,600 people so far this decade. Additionally, the region gained population due to migration patterns, with over 87,400 more

people moving into the region than moving out. Interestingly, where the State of Minnesota has lost over 26,200 people to domestic migration patterns since 2010, the Metro Area gained just over 1,600 such people. Most net migration growth since 2010 in the region has been due to international immigration, however. More specifically, the region gained over 85,800 immigrants between 2010 and 2019 (Table 2).

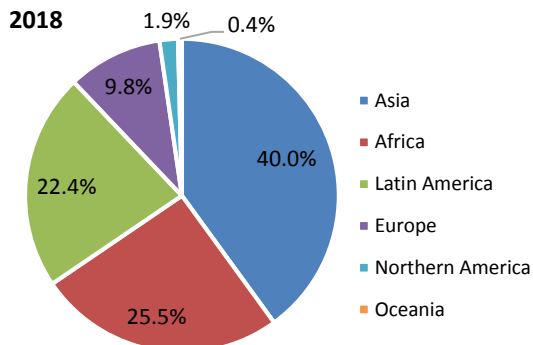
Table 1. Population Change 2010-2019				
	2010 Population	2019 Estimates	2010-2019 Change	
			Number	Percent
<b>Metro Area</b>	<b>2,849,567</b>	<b>3,118,648</b>	<b>+269,081</b>	<b>+9.4%</b>
Anoka County	330,844	356,921	+26,077	+7.9%
Carver County	91,042	105,089	+14,047	+15.4%
Dakota Co.	398,552	429,021	+30,469	+7.6%
Hennepin Co.	1,152,425	1,265,843	+113,418	+9.8%
Ramsey Co.	508,640	550,321	+41,681	+8.2%
Scott Co.	129,928	149,013	+19,085	+14.7%
Washington County	238,136	262,440	+24,304	+10.2%
<b>State of Minnesota</b>	<b>5,303,925</b>	<b>5,611,179</b>	<b>+335,707</b>	<b>+6.3%</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Table 2. Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2010-2019							
	Total Change	Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	Inter-national	Domestic
Metro Area	269,073	183,613	363,389	179,776	87,446	85,827	1,619
Minnesota	335,705	250,488	637,356	386,868	88,161	114,414	-26,253

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

**Figure 1. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population in the Metro Area, 2018**



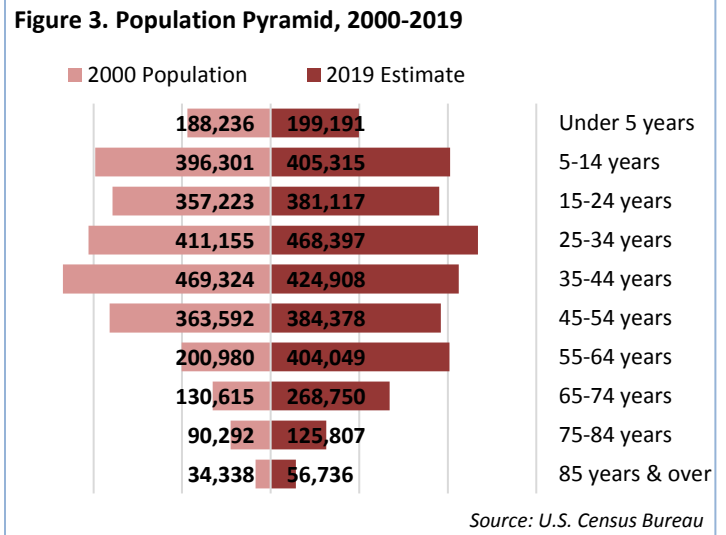
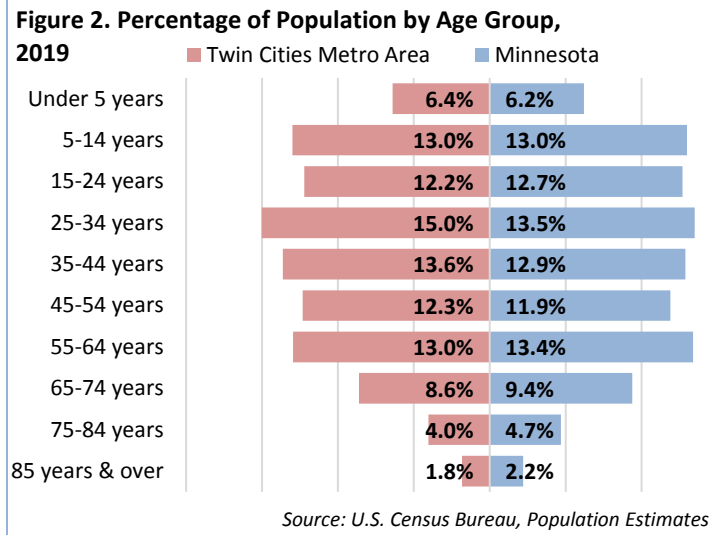
The Twin Cities Metro Area is now home to nearly 363,300 foreign born residents, making up about 12.0% of the region's total population. As such, the region accounts for 78.7% of Minnesota's total foreign-born population. The largest number of foreign-born residents in the Twin Cities are from Asia.

The number of immigrants in the region has increased by 24.4% since 2010, slightly under the comparative statewide growth rate of 25.8%. Over two-fifths (about 31,200 people) of the region's recent growth in immigration has come from Asia, most notably South Eastern Asia and South-Central Asia. Nearly one-third (about 21,400 people), have moved from Eastern Africa, over one-tenth (about 8,400 people) have

moved from Western Africa, and nearly 7,000 people have moved from Latin America since 2010 (see Figure 1). It should be noted that the region's foreign-born population is much younger than the total population overall. For example, 62.7% the region's foreign-born population is between the ages of 25 and 54 years. Comparatively, 42.1% of the overall population is between the ages of 25 and 54 years.

## POPULATION BY AGE GROUP

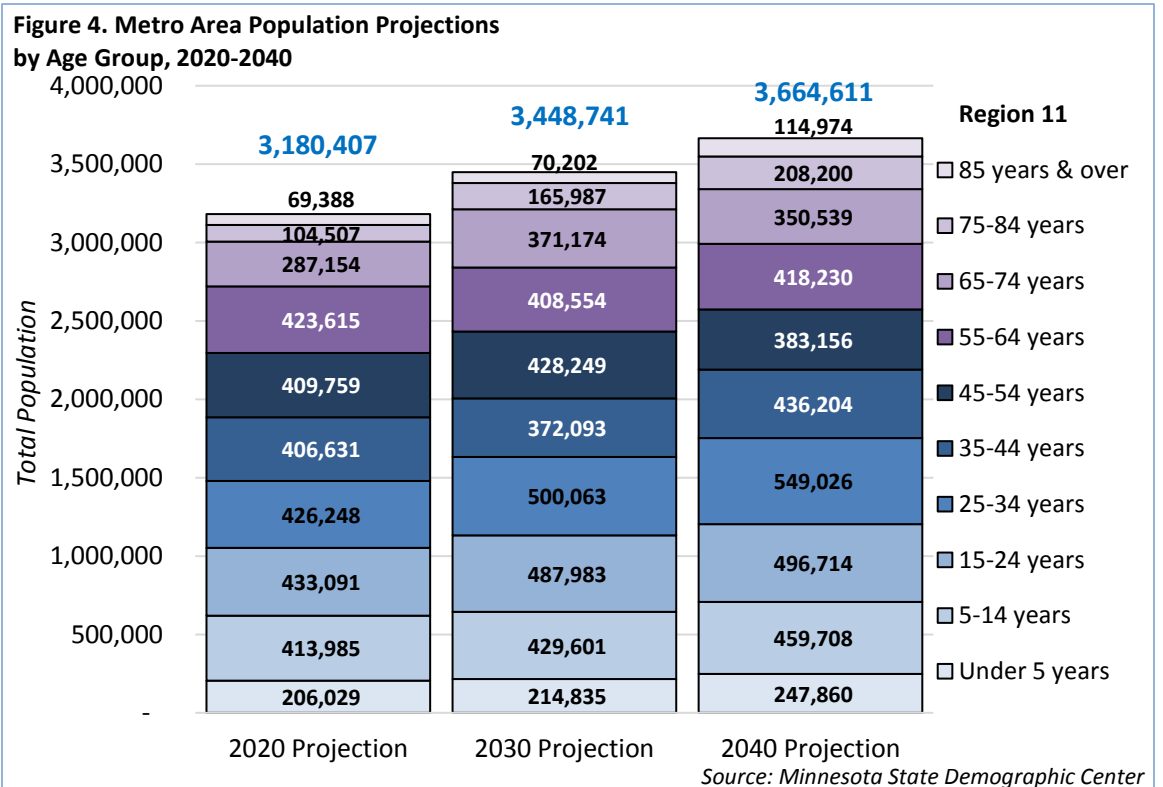
Overall, the Twin Cities Metro Area has a slightly younger population than the rest of the state, with 14.4% of residents aged 65 years and over, compared to 16.3% statewide. Consequently, the Metro Area has a higher percentage of people in the 25- to 54-year-old age group, typically considered the “prime working years.” The share of school-aged children in the Metro Area and Minnesota is similar (Figure 2).



A large portion of the region’s population is a part of the Baby Boomer generation, or those people born between 1946 and 1964, which is creating a significant shift in the population over time. Where the number of residents between the ages of 35 and 44 years declined between 2000 and 2019, the number of residents aged 55 years and over increased dramatically (Figure 3).

## POPULATION PROJECTIONS BY AGE

According to population projections from the [State Demographic Center](#), the Twin Cities Metro Area is expected to gain nearly 485,000 residents between 2020 and 2040, a 15.2% increase (Figure 4). This projected gain is much higher than the state’s, which is projected to grow by 8.8% during that time. Rapid growth is expected for older age cohorts in the region and state.



## POPULATION BY RACE

The Twin Cities Metro Area has a much more diverse population than the state overall, and it continues to become more diverse over time. In 2018, 76.6% of the region's residents reported white alone as their

Table 3. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2018	Twin Cities Metro Area				Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2000-2018 Numeric   Percent		Percent	Change from 2000-2018
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,039,708</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>+397,652</b>	<b>+15.1%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>+12.4%</b>
White	2,328,568	76.6%	+90,451	+4.0%	83.3%	+4.7%
Black or African American	288,828	9.5%	+132,208	+84.4%	6.2%	+99.3%
American Indian & Alaska Native	18,437	0.6%	-1,980	-9.7%	1.1%	+7.3%
Asian & Other Pac. Islander	226,213	7.4%	+103,974	+85.1%	4.8%	+83.8%
Some Other Race	70,602	2.3%	+25,541	+56.7%	1.8%	+48.7%
Two or More Races	107,060	3.5%	+47,458	+79.6%	2.9%	+90.7%
Hispanic or Latino origin	192,028	6.3%	+96,126	+100.2%	5.3%	+104.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey

race, compared to 83.3% of residents statewide. The region had especially higher concentrations of those reporting as Black or African American and Asian or Other Pacific Islander than the state overall. Beyond a smaller share of those reporting as white alone, the Metro Area also had a slightly smaller share of those reporting as American Indian or Alaska Native than the state (Table 3).

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

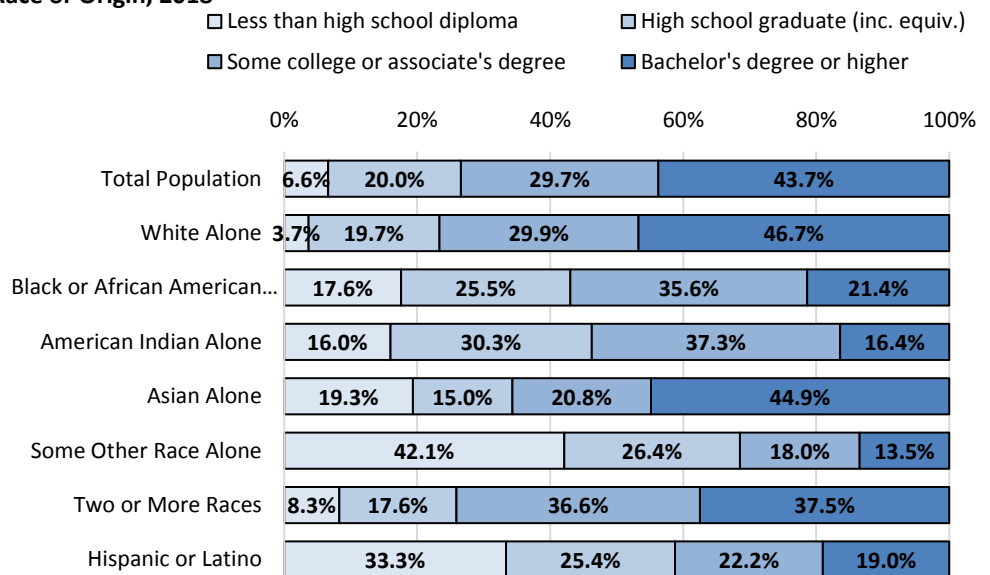
The Twin Cities Metro Area has more residents with higher educational attainment than the state overall. For example, 73.4% of those living in the Metro Area (that are 25 years of age and older) have attended a post-secondary institution or have obtained a degree. That includes 43.7% of the region's population with a bachelor's degree or more. Comparatively, 68.0% of the state's total population 25 years of age and older have attended a post-secondary institution, with 35.4% having a bachelor's degree or more (Table 4).

Table 4. Educational Attainment for the Adult Population, 2018	Metro Area		Minnesota
	Number	Percent	Percent
<b>Total, 25 years &amp; over</b>	<b>2,058,662</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Less than high school	136,412	6.6%	7.0%
High school graduate (incl. equiv.)	410,869	20.0%	24.9%
Some college, no degree	405,149	19.7%	21.2%
Associate degree	206,250	10.0%	11.4%
Bachelor's degree	582,159	28.3%	23.3%
Advanced degree	317,823	15.4%	12.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey

Educational attainment varied significantly by race and ethnicity in the Metro Area. For example, 96.3% of the white alone population reported having at least a high school diploma or equivalent, but just 66.7% of Hispanic or Latino adults reported having a high school diploma or equivalent, as did just 57.9% of people of Some Other Race (Figure 5).

**Figure 5. Educational Attainment for the population aged 25 years & over by Race or Origin, 2018**



Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey

## LABOR FORCE

### LABOR FORCE CHANGE

According to data from DEED's [Local Area Unemployment Statistics](#) program, the Twin Cities Metro Area has experienced some minor fluctuations in the size of the available labor force over the last 19 years in response to changing economic conditions. This was especially so during the Great Recession, between 2006 and 2010. More specifically, the region's total labor force expanded by over 17,600 people between 2006 and 2008, after which it contracted by over 10,100 people between 2008 and 2010.

Beyond those changes, the Metro Area's labor force has witnessed longer-term expansions and

contractions. Between 1990 and 2000, for example, the region's labor force added an average of nearly 21,800 people per year (1.6% average annual growth rate). Between 2000 and 2010, labor force growth barely managed 3,000 per year (0.2% average annual growth rate). Since 2010, labor force growth has picked up again, adding an average of about 15,300 people per year (1.0% average annual growth) (Figure 6 and Figure 7).

Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates, 2000-2019

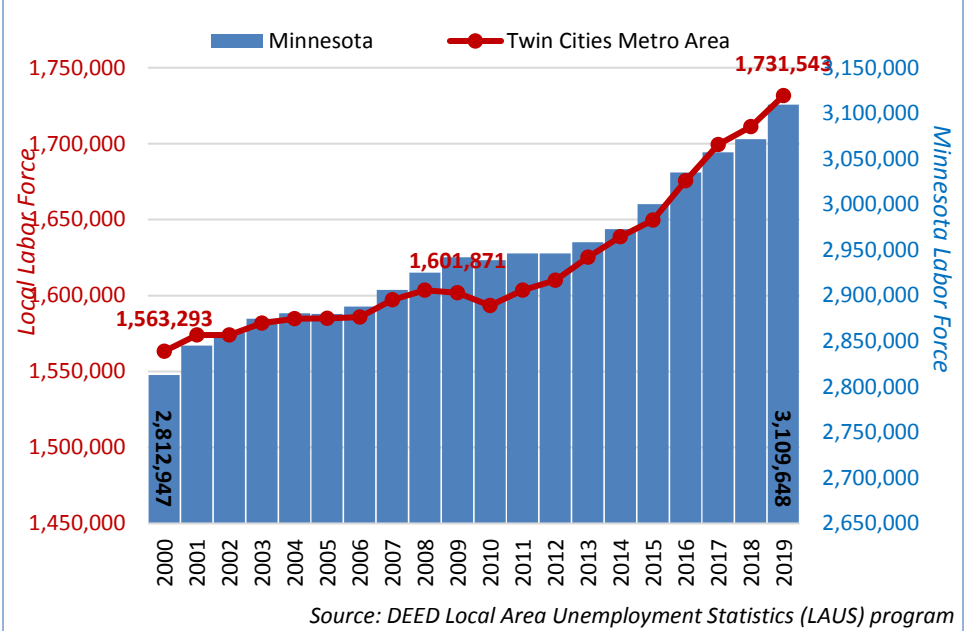
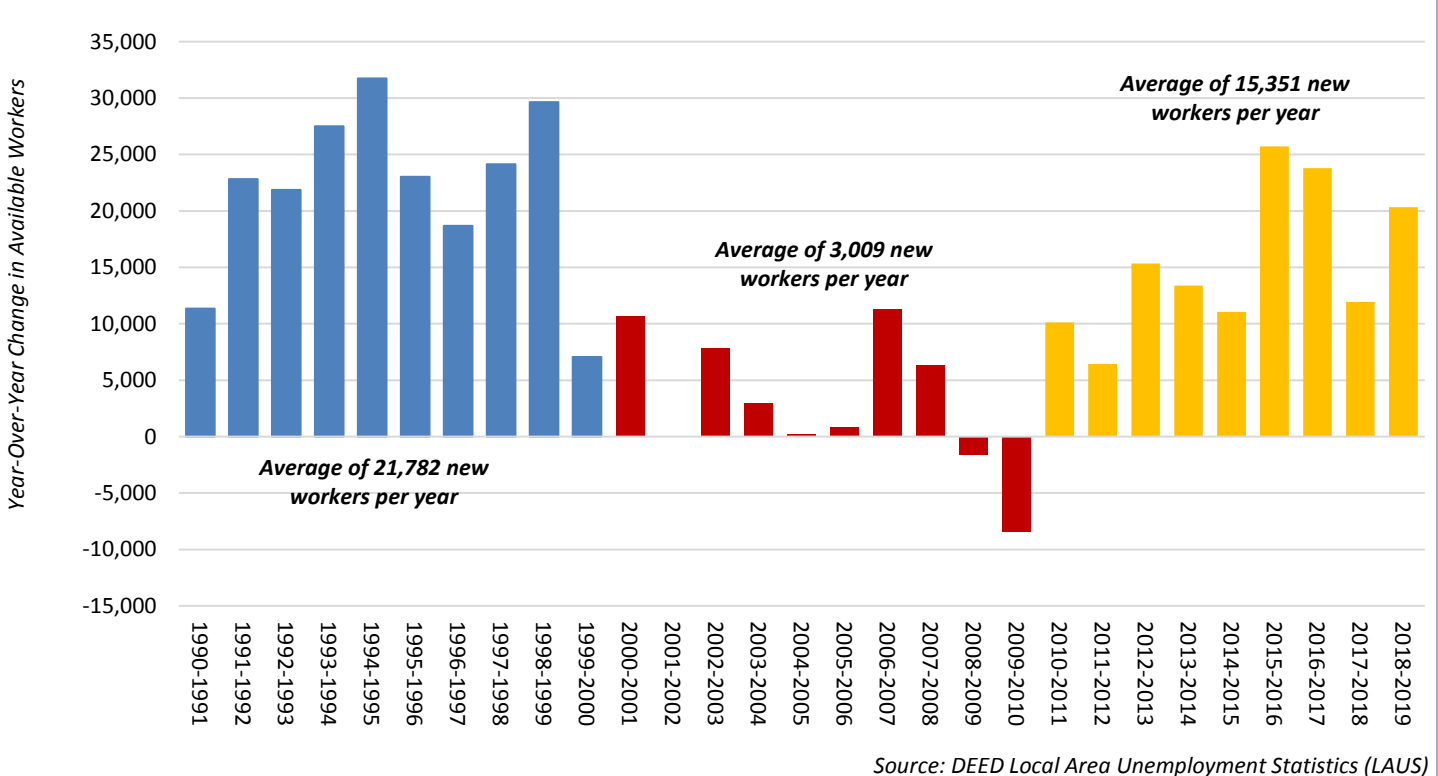


Figure 7. Twin Cities Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2019





## LABOR FORCE PROJECTIONS

If the Twin Cities Metro Area's population changes at the projected rates shown in Figure 4 above, the region would be expected to see a moderate increase in the labor force over the next decade. Applying current labor force participation rates to future population projections by age group creates labor force projections for the region, which show a steady 6.1% increase in workforce numbers (Table 5).

In addition to the overall increase, the labor force will also see a significant shift over time, with large percentage gains in the number of workers aged 65 years and over. These gains will come as the share of workers between 55 and 64 years is anticipated to decrease. At the other end of the age spectrum, the region is expected to see significant gains in the number of workers between the ages of 20 and 44 years old. Currently, those workers between the ages of 25 and 54, or those in their "prime-working years" make up 65.0% of the Metro Area's total labor force. By 2030, this age cohort will account for about 61.2% of the region's total labor force. Employers in the area will need to respond to such shifts creatively.

## EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

With 72.2% of the working age population aged 16 years and over in the labor force, the Metro Area had a slightly higher labor force participation rate than the state's 69.7% rate. The labor force participation rate is the share of both the employed and unemployed over the civilian noninstitutional population. In terms of unemployment, the Metro Area's overall rate of 4.1% in 2018 was slightly higher than the state's respective rate of 3.9% (Table 6). At the time, this represented approximately 71,000 unemployed persons in the region.

Up close, the Metro Area had higher labor force participation rates across all racial and ethnic groups than the state but did have a lower such rate for teenagers. Overall, unemployment rates were slightly lower in the Metro Area among the different racial and ethnic groups but were higher for teenagers and young adults between the ages of 20 and 24 years.

The region also had nearly 55,100 veterans and 78,800 workers with disabilities in the labor force, with participation rates similar to the state. Unemployment rates were slightly lower for veterans than for the total labor force in the region but were significantly higher for those with reported disabilities.

**Table 5. Metro Area Labor Force Projections**

	2020 Labor Force Projection	2030 Labor Force Projection	2020-2030 Change	
			Numeric	Percent
16 to 19 years	91,195	97,196	+6,002	+6.6%
20 to 24 years	174,547	208,349	+33,802	+19.4%
25 to 44 years	743,481	778,543	+35,061	+4.7%
45 to 54 years	359,404	375,622	+16,218	+4.5%
55 to 64 years	313,260	302,123	-11,138	-3.6%
65 to 74 years	83,870	108,410	+24,540	+29.3%
75 years & over	11,301	15,350	+4,048	+35.8%
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>1,777,059</b>	<b>1,885,592</b>	<b>+108,533</b>	<b>+6.1%</b>

*Source: calculated from Minnesota State Demographic Center population projections and 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

**Table 6. Employment Characteristics, 2018**

	Metro Area			Minnesota	
	In Labor Force	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>1,732,507</b>	<b>72.2%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>69.7%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
16 to 19 years	76,166	50.3%	12.8%	52.9%	11.7%
20 to 24 years	161,103	84.6%	7.2%	84.4%	6.4%
25 to 44 years	766,713	89.3%	3.5%	88.6%	3.5%
45 to 54 years	359,973	87.7%	2.9%	87.3%	2.8%
55 to 64 years	288,842	73.9%	3.2%	72.6%	3.0%
65 to 74 years	68,530	29.2%	2.5%	27.6%	2.4%
75 years & over	10,666	6.5%	2.5%	6.3%	2.6%
<b>Employment Characteristics by Race &amp; Hispanic Origin</b>					
White alone	1,380,109	72.0%	3.2%	69.5%	3.3%
Black or African American	142,887	72.0%	9.3%	70.7%	9.9%
American Indian & Alaska Nat.	8,495	61.0%	9.3%	58.5%	12.8%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	121,027	71.6%	4.7%	71.3%	4.7%
Some Other Race	38,456	79.2%	6.5%	77.2%	6.2%
Two or More Races	41,126	75.0%	7.3%	73.1%	7.6%
Hispanic or Latino	97,857	77.6%	6.3%	76.3%	6.5%
<b>Employment Characteristics by Veteran Status</b>					
Veterans, 18 to 64 years	55,073	81.5%	3.6%	79.2%	4.2%
<b>Employment Characteristics by Disability</b>					
With Any Disability	78,798	53.4%	9.5%	52.5%	9.0%
<b>Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment</b>					
Population, 25 to 64 years	1,415,703	85.3%	2.8%	84.2%	3.2%
Less than H.S. Diploma	67,076	65.1%	4.3%	65.4%	4.5%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	233,735	79.2%	2.8%	78.6%	2.6%
Some College or Assoc. Deg.	429,384	85.6%	3.0%	85.2%	3.2%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	685,354	90.2%	1.8%	89.8%	1.9%

*Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates*

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

According to [Local Area Unemployment Statistics](#), the Metro Area has had a historically lower unemployment rate than Minnesota and the nation, regardless of the state of the economy. As of annual 2019, the Metro Area's unemployment rate stood at 2.9%, which represented approximately 50,400 unemployed persons. Minnesota's unemployment rate of 3.2% during that time represented approximately 100,500 people (Figure 8). As such, about half of the state's unemployed persons resided within the Twin Cities Metro Area in 2019. Entering 2020, the Metro Area's unemployment rate remained between 2.8% and 2.9%, before spiking up to 9.0% in April and 10.1% in May. This spike was due to COVID-19's impact upon the region's labor market. May's rate of 10.1% represented approximately 172,300 unemployed persons, a number 3.4 times higher than it was in March. Since May, the region's unemployment rate has gradually declined, but 2020's annual unemployment rate will undoubtedly be higher than 2019's unemployment rate.

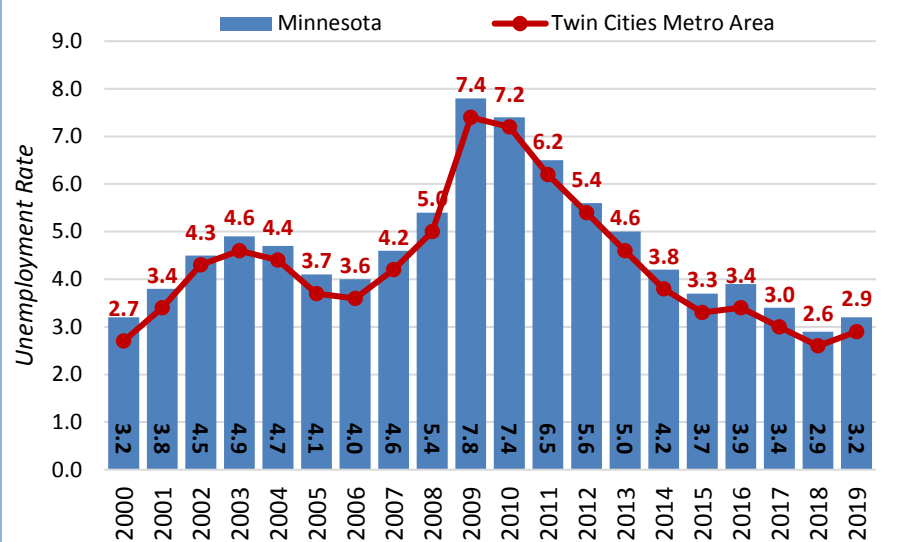
## JOBSEEKERS PER VACANCY

Through the end of 2019, the Metro Area's labor market continued to tighten. One clear demonstration of this was the ratio of 0.6 unemployed jobseekers per vacancy during Q4, 2019. More specifically, there were only about 45,900 job seekers for over 75,500 job vacancies at that time (Figure 9).

## COMMUTE SHED AND LABOR SHED, 2017

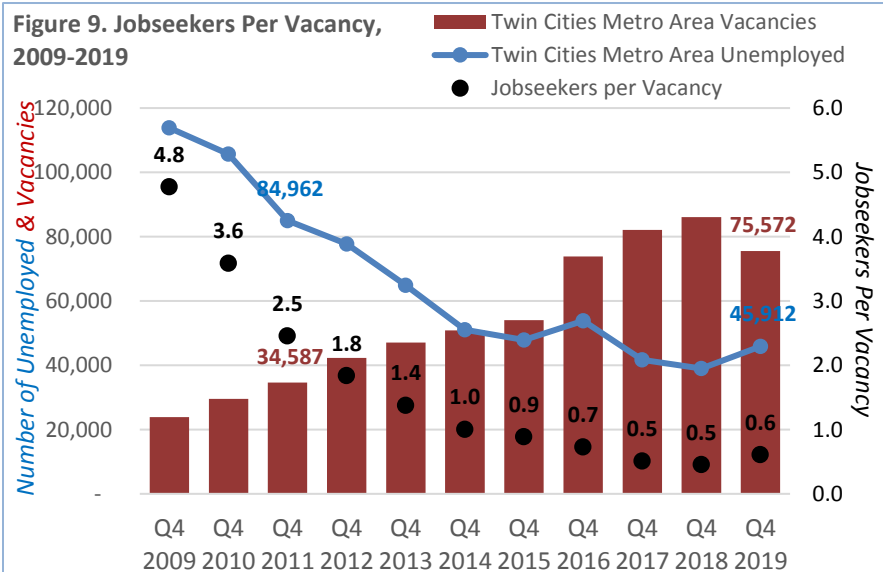
According to commuting data from the [U.S. Census Bureau](#), the vast majority – about 94% – of workers who live in the Twin Cities Metro Area also work within the region. There is no doubt that the Metro Area is a net importer of labor, having more jobs than available workers. In sum, about 1,505,400 workers both lived and worked in the Metro Area in 2017, while over 257,600 workers drove into the region for work, compared to about 102,100 workers who lived in the region but drove to surrounding counties for work (Table 7 and Figure 10).

Figure 8. Unemployment Rates, 2000-2019



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program

Figure 9. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2009-2019



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

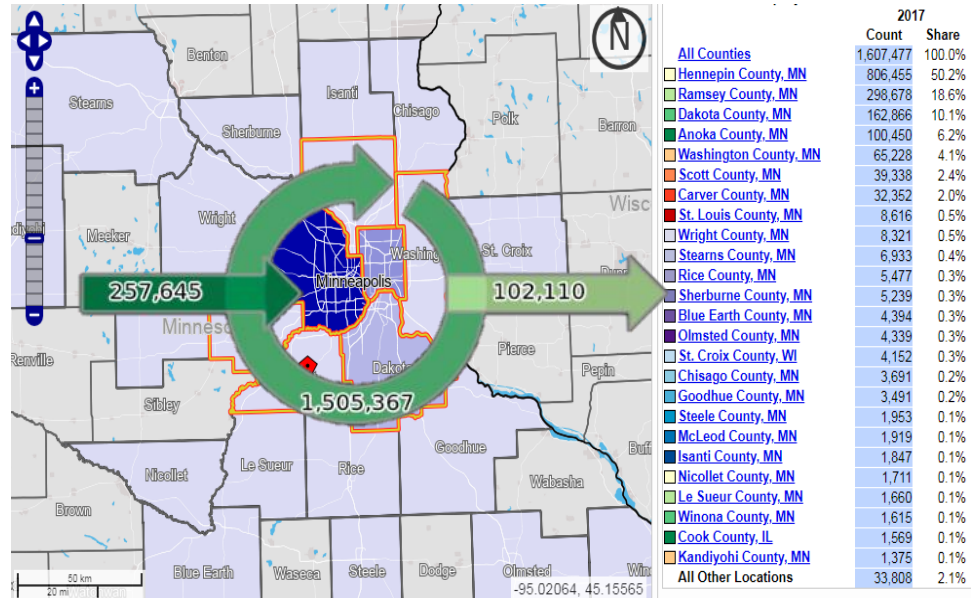
Table 7. Twin Cities Metro Area Inflow/Outflow Job Counts (All Jobs), 2017	2017	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	1,763,012	100.0%
Employed in the Selection Area but Living Outside	257,645	14.6%
Employed and Living in the Selection Area	1,505,367	85.4%
Living in the Selection Area	1,607,477	100.0%
Living in the Selection Area but Employed Outside	102,110	6.4%
Living and Employed in the Selection Area	1,505,367	93.6%

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap](#)

For those living in the Twin Cities Metro Area, top work destinations include Minneapolis, St. Paul, Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Eagan, Plymouth, St. Louis Park, and Minnetonka. Nearly one-in-five Metro Area residents work in Minneapolis alone, with more than one-in-ten working in St. Paul. Zooming out, just over half (50.2%) of Twin Cities' residents work in Hennepin County, with another 18.6% working in Ramsey County (Figure 10).

For those outside residents commuting into the region for work, top origins include Wright County, Sherburne County, and St. Croix County, WI.

**Figure 10. Twin Cities Metro Area Labor and Commute Shed, 2017**



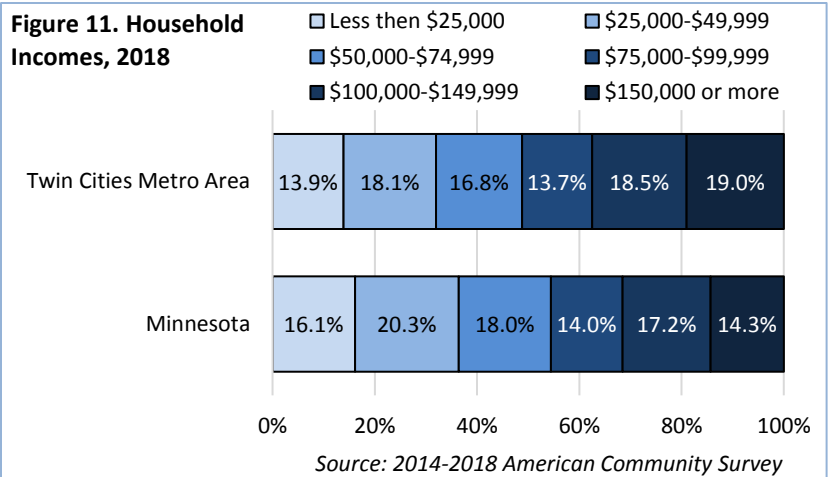
## INCOMES, WAGES AND OCCUPATIONS

### HOUSEHOLD INCOMES

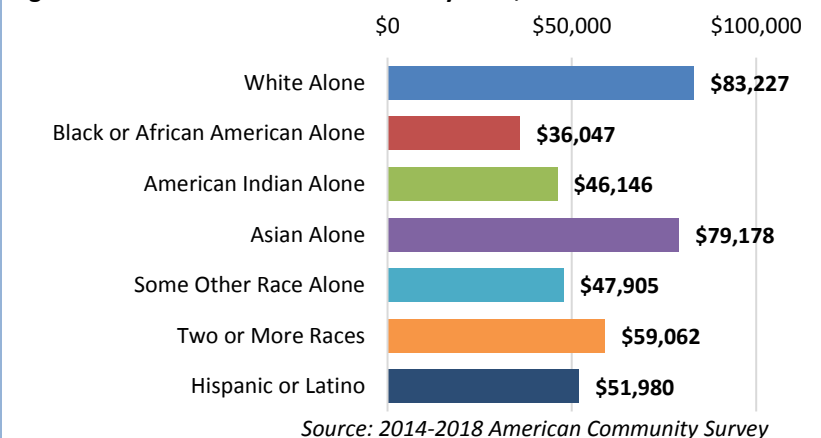
As of 2018, household incomes were significantly higher in the Twin Cities Metro Area than they were for the rest of the state. The median household income in the Metro Area was \$77,034 in 2018, which was 12.6% higher than Minnesota's median household income of \$68,411. Even so, nearly one-third (32.0%) of the households in the region had incomes below \$50,000 in 2018, compared to 36.4% of such households statewide (Figure 11). Median household incomes ranged from \$62,304 in Ramsey County to \$97,895 in Carver County.

Median household incomes varied significantly by race and ethnicity in the region. Black or African American households reported the lowest incomes in the Metro Area, with a median household income (\$36,047) that was over \$47,000 lower than the respective median household income for white households (\$83,227) (Figure 12). Only those reporting as white or Asian had median household incomes above the median household income for the total of all households in the Twin Cities Metro Area.

**Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2018**



**Figure 12. Median Household Income by Race, 2018**





## COST OF LIVING

According to DEED's [Cost of Living tool](#), the basic needs budget for an average Minnesota family (which consists of two adults and one child, with one full-time and one part-time worker) was \$56,772 in 2019. The cost of living for a similar family in the Twin Cities Metro Area was \$61,536 – which was the highest of the six planning regions in the state. The highest monthly costs were for housing, food, and transportation; with housing, childcare, and taxes significantly higher than the rest of the state. In order to meet the basic cost of living for the region, each worker in the family scenario described would need to earn \$19.72 per hour, again one working part-time and one working full time.

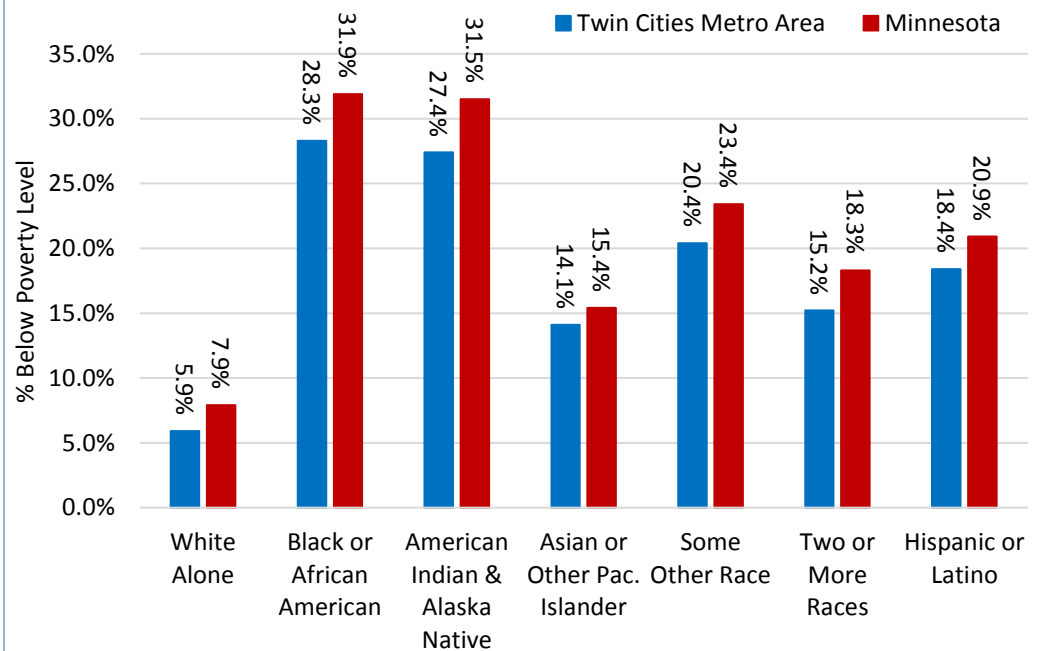
DEED's Cost of Living tool provides different estimates for household compositions including single people, partnered couples, and up to four children. For a single person living alone and working full-time, the estimated yearly cost in the Metro Area would be \$33,180, which would require an hourly wage of \$15.95 to meet the basic needs standard of living (Table 8).

Table 8. Family Yearly Cost, Worker Hourly Wage, and Family Monthly Costs, 2019										
Family Composition	Number of Workers	Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
				Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Trans- portation	Other	Taxes
Twin Cities Metro Area										
Single, 0 children	1 FT	\$33,180	\$15.95	\$0	\$340	\$151	\$911	\$635	\$351	\$377
Single, 1 child	1 FT	\$61,884	\$29.75	\$1,378	\$504	\$350	\$1,172	\$639	\$470	\$644
2 parents, 1 child	1 FT, 1 PT	\$61,536	\$19.72	\$689	\$779	\$550	\$1,172	\$733	\$547	\$658
2 parents, 2 children	2 FT	\$99,336	\$23.88	\$2,220	\$1,019	\$560	\$1,665	\$771	\$752	\$1,291
State of Minnesota										
Single, 0 children	1 FT	\$31,392	\$15.09	\$0	\$336	\$157	\$798	\$653	\$318	\$354
2 parents, 1 child	1 FT, 1 PT	\$56,772	\$18.20	\$516	\$769	\$593	\$1,033	\$755	\$505	\$560
Source: <a href="#">DEED Cost of Living tool</a>										

Source: [DEED Cost of Living tool](#)

Overall, the Metro Area's poverty rate was 9.4% in 2018, which was slightly below the statewide rate of 10.1%. Like incomes, poverty levels varied widely by race and origin. It was estimated that 28.3% of the region's Black or African American population was below the poverty level in 2018, compared to just 5.9% of the white population. Likewise, poverty levels hovered around 27.4% for American Indians, and 18.4% for people of Hispanic or Latino origin. 20.4% of people reporting as Some Other Race and 15.2% of those reporting Two or More Races were also below the poverty level in 2018. In all cases, the region's poverty rate was lower than the state's poverty rate (Figure 13).

Figure 13. Percent Below the Poverty Level by Race or Origin, 2018



Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey

## WAGES AND OCCUPATIONS

According to DEED's [Occupational Employment Statistics](#) program, the median hourly wage for all occupations in the Twin Cities Metro Area was \$23.30 in the first quarter of 2020, which was the highest wage level of the six planning regions in the state. The Metro Area's median hourly wage was \$1.81 above the state's median hourly wage, equaling 108.4% of the statewide wage rate. Working full-time and year-round, a worker earning the median wage in the Metro Area would earn about \$3,800 more than a worker earning the median wage in the state overall (Table 9). Zooming out, half of workers in the Metro Area earn between \$11.90 and \$36.59 per hour.

Table 9. Occupational Employment Statistics by Region, 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr. 2020	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment
Twin Cities Metro Area	\$23.30	1,805,980
Central Minnesota	\$19.28	278,730
Southeast Minnesota	\$19.89	242,490
Northwest Minnesota	\$18.38	223,440
Southwest Minnesota	\$18.38	176,420
Northeast Minnesota	\$19.03	144,320
<b>State of Minnesota</b>	<b>\$21.49</b>	<b>2,880,650</b>

Source: [DEED Occupational Employment Statistics](#)

The top three-employing occupational groups in the Metro Area, being Office and Administrative Support Occupations, Sales and Related Occupations, and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations, account for 30.8% of the region's total 1,805,980 jobs. While these three occupational groups account for a large share of the Metro Area's total employment, the region stands out for having higher concentrations of Business and Financial Operations; Legal; Computer and Mathematical; Architecture and Engineering; and Arts, Design, Entertainment, and Media workers. Location quotients measure employment concentration within a specific area over a base economy, in this case the Metro Area over the State of Minnesota (Table 10).

Table 10. Metro Area Occupational Employment Statistics, 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr. 2020							
	Twin Cities Metro Area				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment	Share of Total Employment	Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment	Share of Total Employment
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>\$23.30</b>	<b>1,805,980</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$21.49</b>	<b>2,880,650</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Office & Administrative Support	\$21.11	235,850	13.1%	1.0	\$20.03	363,800	12.6%
Sales & Related	\$16.72	175,320	9.7%	1.0	\$15.37	277,000	9.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$12.78	145,600	8.1%	1.0	\$12.43	244,300	8.5%
Business & Financial Operations	\$35.14	136,210	7.5%	1.3	\$33.87	171,550	6.0%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$18.19	128,390	7.1%	0.9	\$18.06	216,890	7.5%
Management	\$57.34	123,350	6.8%	1.2	\$52.70	170,650	5.9%
Production	\$19.54	111,670	6.2%	0.8	\$19.03	212,650	7.4%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$37.89	105,380	5.8%	0.9	\$36.07	190,800	6.6%
Healthcare Support	\$14.95	97,250	5.4%	1.0	\$14.81	163,160	5.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$25.44	93,700	5.2%	0.9	\$24.38	165,310	5.7%
Computer & Mathematical	\$44.06	83,840	4.6%	1.4	\$42.71	97,960	3.4%
Construction & Extraction	\$32.47	57,490	3.2%	0.9	\$28.97	104,900	3.6%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$25.72	53,710	3.0%	0.9	\$24.31	100,060	3.5%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$15.81	48,430	2.7%	0.9	\$15.23	83,860	2.9%
Personal Care & Service	\$13.98	44,540	2.5%	1.0	\$13.65	70,290	2.4%
Architecture & Engineering	\$39.81	40,170	2.2%	1.2	\$38.00	55,520	1.9%
Community & Social Service	\$23.79	32,620	1.8%	0.9	\$23.34	57,200	2.0%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$26.54	28,040	1.6%	1.2	\$24.52	38,540	1.3%
Protective Service	\$21.78	27,830	1.5%	1.0	\$22.45	45,030	1.6%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$36.17	19,520	1.1%	1.2	\$34.35	27,070	0.9%
Legal	\$39.47	15,960	0.9%	1.3	\$37.35	20,050	0.7%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$17.13	1,140	0.1%	0.4	\$17.72	4,060	0.1%

Source: [DEED Occupational Employment Statistics, Qtr. 1 2020](#)

When analyzing occupational groups by wage, the lowest-paying jobs are concentrated in Food Preparation and Serving; Building, Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance; Sales and Related; Personal Care and Service; and Healthcare Support, which tend to have lower educational and training requirements. In contrast, the highest paying jobs are found in Management; Computer and Mathematical; Legal; Architecture and Engineering; Healthcare Practitioners; Business and Financial Operations; and Life, Physical, and Social Science occupations, which all need higher levels of education and experience, including many that require postsecondary training. The pay gaps between the region and state are much bigger in these occupations (Table 10).

### JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Employers in Twin Cities Metro Area reported 75,572 job vacancies in the fourth quarter of 2019, which was a slight decrease from the 76,542 openings compared to the previous year, but considerably higher than the five-year average of 66,956 job vacancies. The median hourly wage offer was \$16.35 across all occupations but ranged from a low of \$12.68 per hour for Food Preparation and Serving workers, to \$30.00 per hour or more for Architecture and Engineering, Computer and Mathematical, Legal, and Management occupations.

The largest number of vacancies were in Food Preparation and Serving Occupations, followed by Sales and Related Occupations, Office and Administrative Support Occupations, Personal Care and Service Occupations, and Management Occupations. More than half (51.5%) of the vacancies in the region were in these five occupational groups. Overall, 35% of the openings were for part-time work, 34% required postsecondary education, and 50% required a year or more of experience (Table 11). In sum, educational requirements in the region had been stable or declining over the past five years, while work experience requirements were rising. Part time work also increased during that time.

**Table 11. Twin Cities Metro Area Job Vacancy Survey Results, 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2019**

	Number of Total Vacancies	Percent Part-time	Percent Temporary or Seasonal	Requiring Post-Secondary Education	Requiring 1 or More Years of Experience	Requiring Certificate or License	Median Hourly Wage Offer
Total, All Occupations	75,572	35%	9%	34%	50%	36%	\$16.35
Food Preparation & Serving Related	10,781	52%	5%	0%	24%	10%	\$12.68
Sales & Related	9,563	44%	16%	16%	47%	11%	\$13.57
Office & Administrative Support	7,472	35%	7%	14%	46%	11%	\$15.76
Personal Care & Service	6,302	60%	8%	15%	22%	57%	\$12.99
Management	4,793	5%	0%	82%	93%	26%	\$36.03
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	4,622	43%	3%	85%	55%	95%	\$26.56
Transportation & Material Moving	4,044	35%	11%	1%	34%	69%	\$16.11
Production	3,184	6%	4%	12%	47%	5%	\$15.96
Business & Financial Operations	3,152	5%	2%	80%	89%	21%	\$28.21
Healthcare Support	3,104	52%	1%	57%	23%	84%	\$15.20
Computer & Mathematical	2,971	1%	1%	83%	96%	10%	\$36.94
Education, Training & Library	2,860	43%	41%	82%	82%	88%	\$18.84
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	2,857	56%	34%	3%	35%	39%	\$14.94
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	2,599	5%	1%	34%	59%	43%	\$20.01
Community & Social Service	2,005	19%	2%	65%	74%	66%	\$18.36
Architecture & Engineering	1,424	1%	8%	81%	82%	29%	\$30.63
Construction & Extraction	1,264	4%	22%	26%	68%	40%	\$20.80
Protective Service	769	57%	16%	9%	41%	44%	\$13.68
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	682	34%	11%	46%	74%	33%	\$18.68
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	677	16%	6%	78%	73%	42%	\$26.05

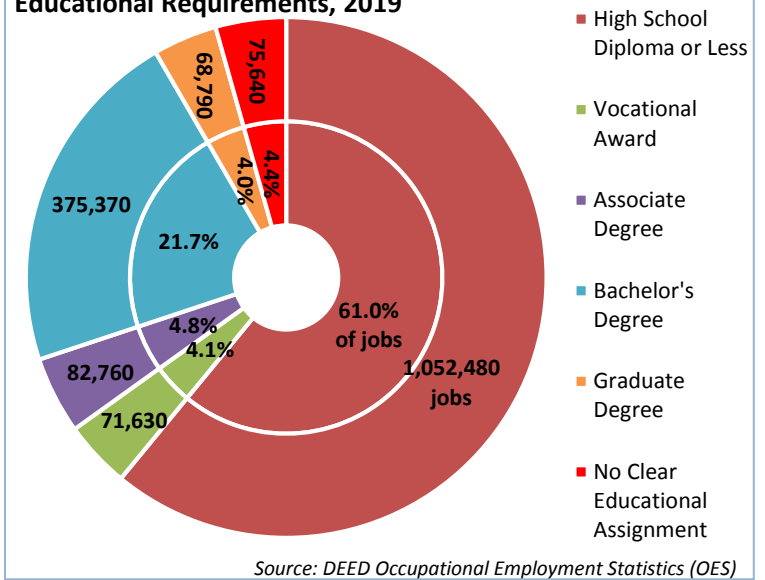
Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2019

## EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Typically, DEED's Job Vacancy Survey shows that between 34% and 40% of job vacancies in the Twin Cities Metro Area require some level of post-secondary education. This is similar to the share of jobs requiring post-secondary education as highlighted by DEED's Occupational Employment Statistics program. As of 2019, this program showed that 39% of all jobs in the region required post-secondary education (Figure 14). In other words, the majority of jobs in the Metro Area, 61%, required a high school diploma or less.

Certain careers – such as Dentists, Lawyers, and Teachers – require a college education, while other jobs – including Cost Estimators, Sales Representatives, and Correctional Officers – do not. College is an excellent way to move up career ladders and open windows of opportunity to fields that would otherwise be closed, such as nursing or engineering. Many of these occupations offer high wages and are in high demand in the marketplace. While education is typically a worthwhile investment, college can be expensive. According to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education, average annual expenses for a full-time resident undergrad can range from \$19,400 at state colleges to \$48,700 at private non-profit colleges. For those who go onto to higher education and college, choice of major matters – different programs lead to different jobs that earn different amounts of money.

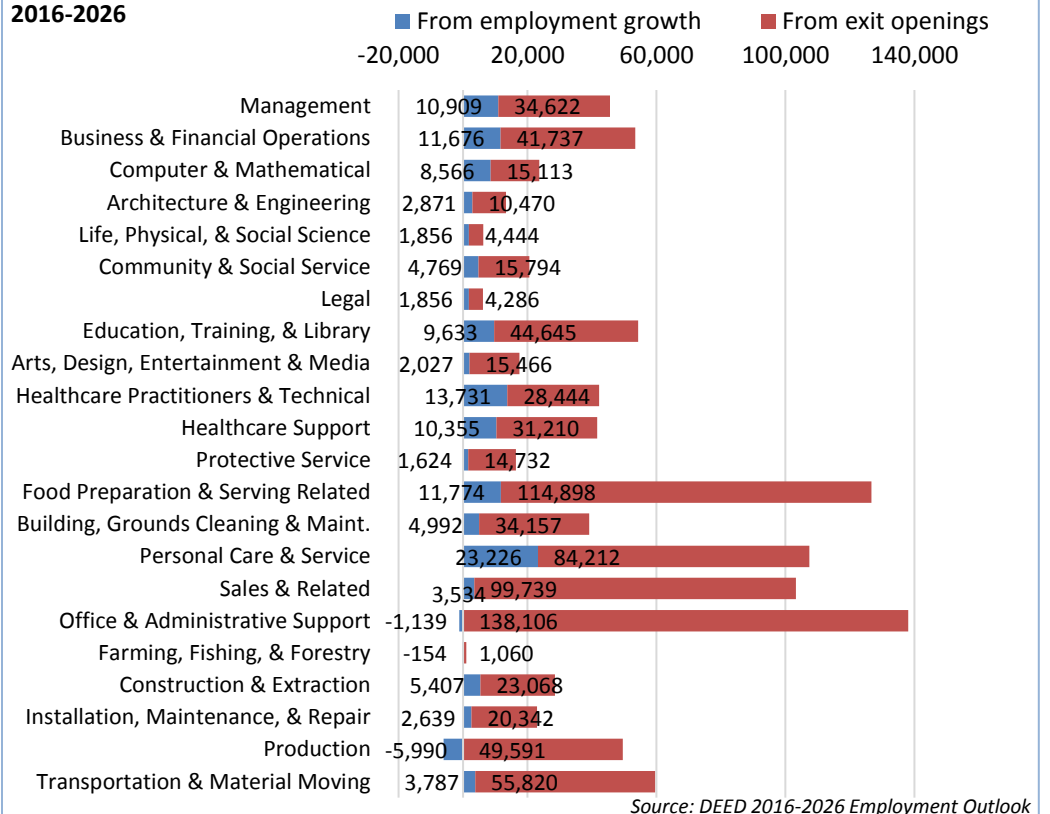
**Figure 14. Metro Area Share of Jobs by Educational Requirements, 2019**



## EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS

Overall, the Metro Area is projected to grow 6.8% from 2016 to 2026, a gain of nearly 128,000 net new jobs. In addition, the region is also expected to need approximately 882,000 replacement openings to fill jobs left vacant by retirements and other career changers. Production, Personal Care and Service, Construction, Healthcare, and Installation, Maintenance and Repair occupations are expected to see the most new growth, but every occupational group will show some future demand either through new jobs or replacement openings (Figure 15).

**Figure 15. Twin Cities Metro Area Employment Projections, 2016-2026**



## OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

According to DEED's [Occupations in Demand](#) tool, there are well over 300 occupations showing relatively high demand in the region, with training and education requirements ranging from short-term on-the-job training to postsecondary education to advanced degrees. These occupations are spread across different sectors but are also concentrated in the region's major industries. For example, Retail Salespersons, Personal Care Aides, Registered Nurses, Software Developers, Accountants, and Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers are among the top occupations in demand based on the consistent need for workers in these fields. Many of the jobs are concentrated in Health Care, Professional and Business Services, Manufacturing, Transportation, and other related industries (Table 12).

**Table 12. Twin Cities Metro Area Occupations in Demand by Education Level, 2019**

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College, Vocational Training, or Assoc. Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Retail Salespersons (\$26,029)	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers (\$52,343)	Registered Nurses (\$86,042)	Software Developers, Applications (\$98,421)
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers (\$24,190)	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers (\$39,064)	Nursing Assistants (\$36,729)	Computer Systems Analysts (\$93,609)
Personal Care Aides (\$26,766)	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers (\$44,284)	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses (\$49,611)	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists (\$72,220)
Janitors and Cleaners (\$31,228)	Customer Service Representatives (\$40,281)	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists (\$27,986)	Management Analysts (\$81,581)
Cashiers (\$24,643)	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants (\$43,840)	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics (\$42,879)	Industrial Engineers (\$91,470)
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand (\$35,075)	Office Clerks, General (\$38,531)	Industrial Engineering Technicians (\$53,574)	Financial Managers (131,676)
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers (\$29,957)	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing (\$68,458)	Computer User Support Specialists (\$56,377)	Human Resource Specialists (\$63,999)
Cooks, Restaurant (\$30,990)	Teacher Assistants (\$33,719)	Medical Records and Health Information Technicians (\$50,570)	Secondary School Teachers (\$70,007)
Home Health Aides (\$30,476)	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General (\$46,196)	Dental Assistants (\$53,942)	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Mfg. (\$78,863)
Food Preparation Workers (\$28,139)	Pharmacy Technicians (\$40,810)	Machinists (\$54,619)	Computer and Information Systems Managers (\$146,734)

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

## ECONOMY

### INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

According to DEED's [Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages \(QCEW\) program](#), the Twin Cities Metro Area was home to over 84,700 business establishments providing an average of nearly 1.78 million covered jobs through 2019, with a total payroll of over \$118.0 billion. That was about 61.2% of total employment in the state of Minnesota (Table 13).

**Table 13. Metro Area Industry Employment Statistics, 2019**

Geography	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Total Payroll	Average Annual Wage	2014-2019		2018-2019	
					Change in Jobs	Percent Change	Change in Jobs	Percent Change
<b>Twin Cities Metro Area</b>	<b>84,707</b>	<b>1,775,606</b>	<b>\$118,035,148,072</b>	<b>\$66,456</b>	<b>+132,235</b>	<b>+8.0%</b>	<b>+12,781</b>	<b>+0.7%</b>
Hennepin County	40,479	937,504	\$68,695,387,642	\$73,268	+71,447	+8.2%	+6,372	+0.7%
Ramsey County	14,034	335,385	\$21,788,850,832	\$64,948	+12,109	+3.7%	+1,397	+0.4%
Dakota County	10,573	191,289	\$11,113,655,291	\$58,084	+10,514	+5.8%	+1,107	+0.6%
Anoka County	7,687	127,801	\$7,017,156,909	\$54,860	+10,958	+9.4%	+1,990	+1.6%
Washington County	5,979	88,324	\$4,341,138,370	\$49,140	+11,640	+15.2%	+1,279	+1.5%
Scott County	3,408	54,797	\$2,822,193,733	\$51,428	+11,473	+26.5%	+734	+1.4%
Carver County	2,548	40,504	\$2,256,765,295	\$55,692	+4,094	+11.2%	-100	-0.2%
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>178,094</b>	<b>2,900,881</b>	<b>\$172,989,740,202</b>	<b>\$59,644</b>	<b>+171,268</b>	<b>+6.3%</b>	<b>+18,877</b>	<b>+0.7%</b>

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW)

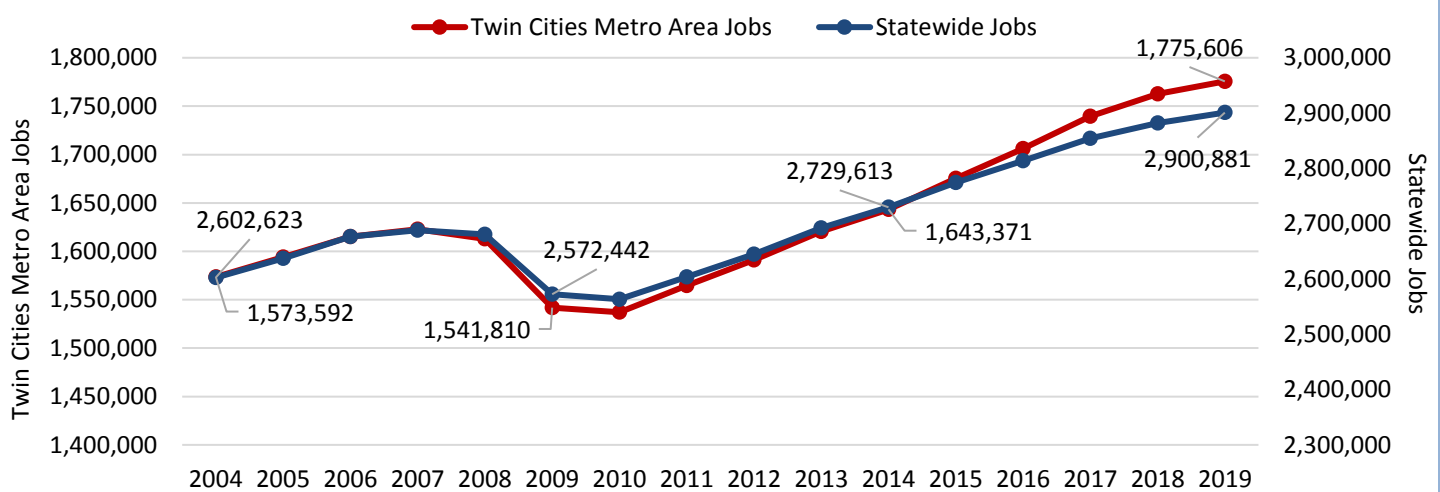


The average annual wage across all industries was \$66,456 in the Twin Cities Metro Area, which was about 11.4% higher than the state's average annual wage across all industries (Table 13).

Like all regions within Minnesota, the Twin Cities Metro Area was hit hard during the Great Recession. More specifically, total employment in the region declined by 5.3% between 2007 and 2010, equivalent to over 85,600 lost jobs. Comparatively, total state employment declined by 4.7%, equivalent to just over 125,000 jobs. Between 2010 and 2019, however, the Metro Area witnessed steady employment growth. During that period, the region's total employment expanded by 15.5%, equivalent to over 238,500 net new jobs. Minnesota's total employment expanded by 13.2% during this time, equivalent to about 337,500 jobs added (Figure 16).

Hennepin County, with over 937,500 jobs, is the Metro Area's largest-employing county. Ramsey County, with nearly 335,400 jobs, is the region's second largest-employing county. Together, Hennepin County and Ramsey County account for 71.7% of the Metro Area's total employment. Making up the bulk of the Metro Area's total employment, it should come as no surprise that Hennepin and Ramsey counties added the most jobs in the region over the past five years (Table 13). While Hennepin and Ramsey counties have added the most jobs over the past five years, Scott County, Washington County, and Carver County have witnessed the fastest growth during that period. Anoka County, Washington County, and Scott County also witnessed rapid employment growth over the past year of available data (Table 13).

**Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2004-2019**



Source: DEED QCEW Program

With 279,190 jobs at 10,439 firms, Health Care and Social Assistance is the Twin Cities Metro Area's largest-employing industry sector, accounting for 15.7% of the region's total jobs (Table 14). Nearly a third of these jobs are within Ambulatory Health Care Services, a quarter each are within Social Assistance and Hospitals, and just under one-fifth are within Nursing and Residential Care Facilities. Over the past five years, employment growth was especially robust within Social Assistance, which added nearly 13,600 jobs. Ambulatory Health Care Services, adding nearly 12,500 jobs, also grew rapidly between 2014 and 2019.

Manufacturing, with 173,066 jobs at 4,059 firms, is the Metro Area's second largest-employing industry sector. While Manufacturing employment in the Metro Area is not as highly concentrated as it is in other regions of the state, it still accounts for about one-in-ten Metro Area jobs, and just over 53% of the state's total Manufacturing employment. The Metro Area has especially high employment levels within Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing, Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing, Miscellaneous Manufacturing, and Machinery Manufacturing. Over the past five years, employment growth has been led by Miscellaneous Manufacturing (+3,316 jobs), Chemical Manufacturing (+1,809 jobs), Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing (+1,293 jobs), and Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing (+1,169 jobs).

Retail Trade rounds out as the Metro Area's third largest-employing industry sector, with 164,756 jobs at 8,633 firms. The largest-employing subsectors within this industry include General Merchandise Stores, Food and Beverage Stores, and Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers. Retail Trade subsectors adding the most jobs between 2014 and 2019 include Food and Beverage Stores (+4,491 jobs), Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers (+2,097 jobs), and Health and Personal Care Stores (+1,152 jobs).

**Table 14. Metro Area Industry Employment Statistics, 2019**

NAICS Industry Title	2019 Annual Data				Avg. Annual Wage	2014-2019		2018-2019	
	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Percent of Jobs	Total Payroll (\$1,000s)		Change in Jobs	Percent Change	Change in Jobs	Percent Change
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>84,707</b>	<b>1,775,606</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$118,035,148</b>	<b>\$66,456</b>	<b>+132,235</b>	<b>+8.0%</b>	<b>+12,781</b>	<b>+0.7%</b>
Health Care & Social Assistance	10,439	279,190	15.7%	\$15,094,087	\$54,028	+33,989	+13.9%	+3,827	+1.4%
Manufacturing	4,059	173,066	9.7%	\$13,551,874	\$78,312	+7,775	+4.7%	+1,749	+1.0%
Retail Trade	8,633	164,756	9.3%	\$5,600,267	\$33,956	+4,491	+2.8%	-3,115	-1.9%
Accommodation & Food Services	6,187	141,031	7.9%	\$3,269,529	\$23,140	+9,512	+7.2%	+141	+0.1%
Educational Services	2,160	134,831	7.6%	\$7,568,958	\$56,108	+8,043	+6.3%	-149	-0.1%
Professional & Technical Services	11,360	125,777	7.1%	\$12,929,401	\$102,804	+16,103	+14.7%	-3,095	-2.4%
Finance & Insurance	4,890	115,144	6.5%	\$13,510,753	\$117,364	+13,552	+13.3%	+4,116	+3.7%
Admin. & Support Services	4,247	97,100	5.5%	\$4,255,909	\$43,784	+2,122	+2.2%	-130	-0.1%
Management of Companies	914	78,902	4.4%	\$10,642,645	\$134,888	+9,045	+12.9%	+6,182	+8.5%
Wholesale Trade	5,072	77,073	4.3%	\$6,851,626	\$88,868	-2,650	-3.3%	-2,698	-3.4%
Construction	6,666	75,663	4.3%	\$5,788,938	\$76,440	+14,088	+22.9%	+3,561	+4.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	1,935	73,780	4.2%	\$4,482,911	\$60,736	+11,547	+18.6%	+2,005	+2.8%
Public Administration	781	73,101	4.1%	\$4,906,222	\$67,132	+4,935	+7.2%	+367	+0.5%
Other Services	9,486	57,288	3.2%	\$2,242,406	\$39,104	+1,826	+3.3%	+286	+0.5%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	1,675	36,441	2.1%	\$1,595,809	\$43,940	+5,785	+18.9%	+1,431	+4.1%
Information	1,690	35,213	2.0%	\$3,165,729	\$89,908	-4,582	-11.5%	-2,091	-5.6%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4,097	27,420	1.5%	\$1,652,849	\$60,320	-3,713	-11.9%	+462	+1.7%
Utilities	103	6,220	0.4%	\$753,829	\$121,420	+237	+4.0%	+10	+0.2%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	276	3,069	0.2%	\$114,234	\$37,336	+269	+9.6%	+31	+1.0%
Mining	38	533	0.0%	\$57,171	\$108,420	-143	-21.2%	-112	-17.4%

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW)

According to DEED's Quarterly Employment Demographics (QED) program, the workforce in the Twin Cities Metro Area has aged over the past 10 years. For example, in 2008, 14.8% of the region's workforce was 55 years of age and older. By 2018, 20.4% of the workforce was 55 years of age and older.

As noted above, wages were climbing across the board for all workers due to rising demand and a tight labor market. While wages were still lowest for the youngest and oldest workers who tend to fill lower-skilled, less-than-fulltime jobs in industries like Retail Trade and Accommodation and Food Services, these two age groups enjoyed the fastest percentage increase in wages from 2008 to 2018 (Table 15).

**Table 15. Workforce Demographics by Age Group and Gender, Total of All Industries, 2008-2018**

Twin Cities Metro Area	Percentage of Workers		Minnesota		Median Hourly Wage		Median Hours Worked (Per Qtr.)	
	2018	2008	2018	2008	2018	2008	2018	2008
Total, all ages	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	\$21.17	\$17.31	434	438
19 years & under	5.3%	6.5%	6.1%	7.5%	\$10.98	\$7.98	109	117
20 to 24 years	10.1%	11.3%	10.3%	11.6%	\$14.64	\$11.65	254	268
25 to 44 years	44.7%	45.0%	42.9%	42.7%	\$23.61	\$19.39	468	476
45 to 54 years	19.4%	22.5%	19.1%	22.5%	\$28.23	\$23.01	480	480
55 to 64 years	16.1%	12.1%	16.7%	12.6%	\$26.90	\$21.60	480	480
65 years & over	4.3%	2.7%	4.8%	3.1%	\$18.10	\$13.79	280	246
Male	49.3%	49.6%	49.1%	49.0%	\$24.06	\$19.85	480	480
Female	50.7%	50.4%	50.9%	51.0%	\$20.23	\$16.23	400	390

Source: DEED Quarterly Employment Demographics

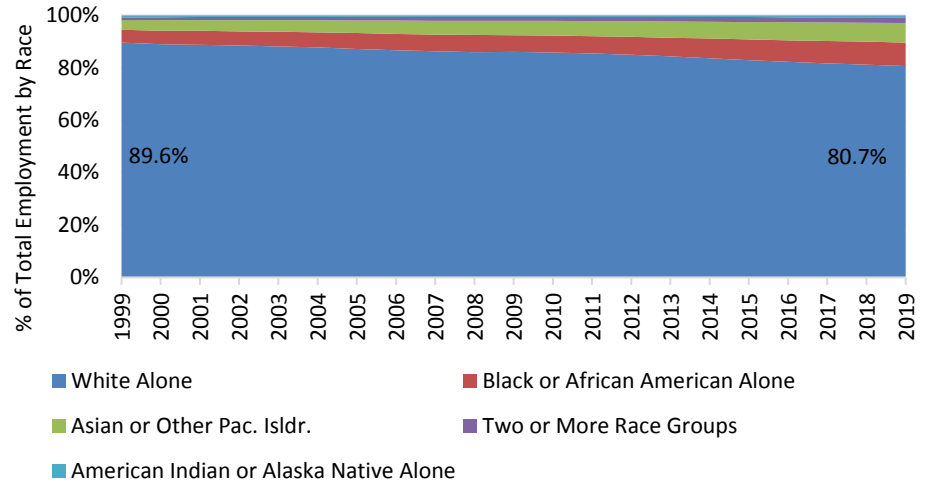
## Employment Diversity

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Quarterly Workforce Indicators program, where those reporting as a race other than white make up 23.4% of the overall population in the Metro Area, they held 19.3% of total jobs in the region. Through the third quarter of 2019, that equaled 349,550 workers of color, compared to 1,461,013 white alone workers. Workers of color held just 11.0% of total jobs in the region in 2000. (Figure 17). Further, there were nearly 97,300 workers with Hispanic and Latino origins in the Metro Area in 2019, accounting for 5.4% of the region's total jobs. This was up from 3.0% in 2000.

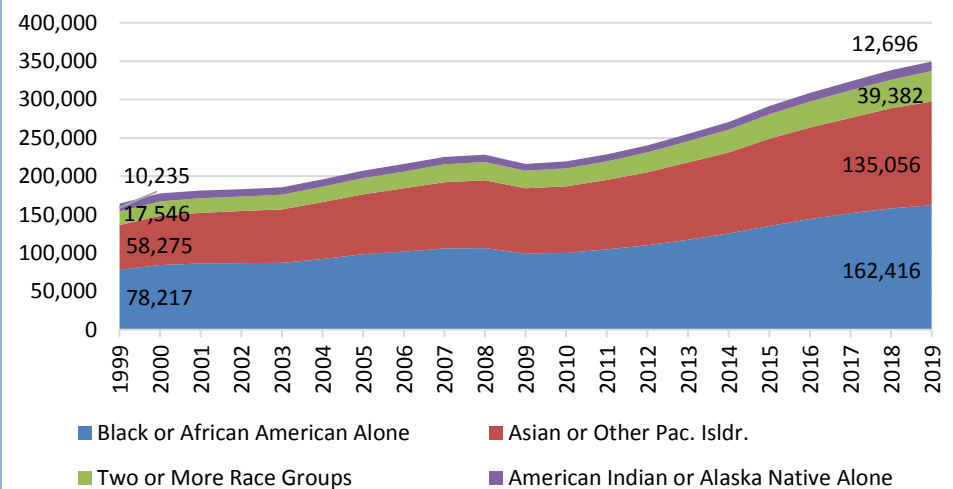
In sum, workers of color filled an additional 171,736 jobs in the Metro Area between 2000 and 2019, accounting for 88.9% of new jobs added. With 162,416 jobs, Black or African Americans are the largest population of color in the regional economy, gaining 78,032 jobs between 2000 and 2019. Asian or Other Pacific Islanders in the workforce more than doubled between 2000 and 2019, accounting for 135,056 jobs in 2019. Workers of Two or More Races held 39,382 jobs in 2019, also more than doubling since 2000. With 12,696 jobs in 2019, American Indians saw the second lowest relative gain at 18.6% (Figure 18).

Health Care and Social Assistance accounted for the largest number of workers reporting as a race other than white alone. Manufacturing, Accommodation and Food Services, Retail Trade, and Administrative and Support Services followed, with each employing more than 20,000 workers of color (Figure 19).

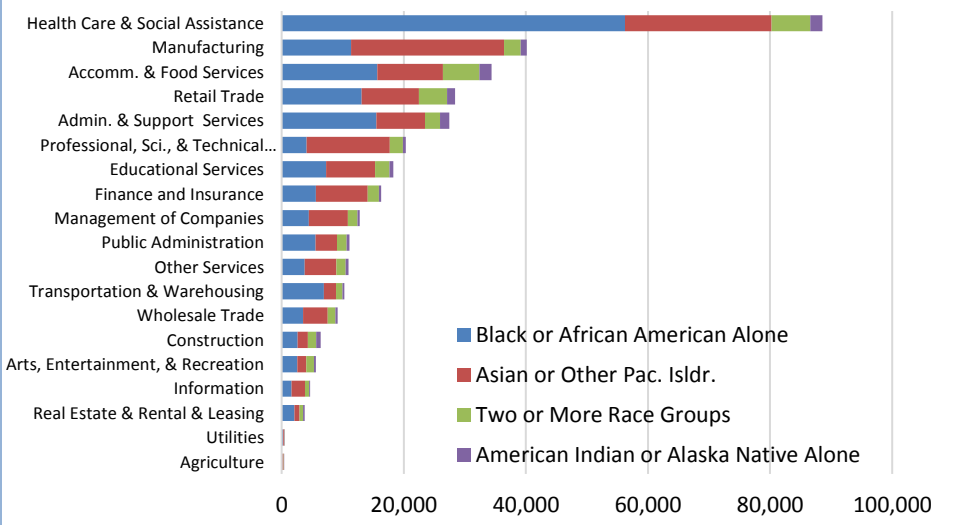
**Figure 17. Twin Cities Metro Area Employment by Race**



**Figure 18. Twin Cities Metro Area Minority Employment Trends**



**Figure 19. Metro Industry Employment by Race, Q3 2019**



## INDUSTRY PROJECTIONS

Total employment in the Twin Cities Metro Area is anticipated to grow by 6.8% between 2016 and 2026. This is equivalent to approximately 128,000 net new jobs. The most extensive growth is expected to be in Health Care and Social Assistance, where its total employment is projected to increase by over 53,000 net new jobs. The region is also expected to see significant employment growth in Professional and Technical Services (+19,292 jobs), Educational Services (+11,282 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+9,606 jobs), and Finance and Insurance (+6,427 jobs). It should be noted that in addition to net new job growth, the Twin Cities region is anticipated to have over 880,000 labor market exit openings between 2016 and 2026. These are job openings largely due to workers leaving an occupation and exiting the labor market entirely (retirements making up the most of these exits). Even industries that are projected to lose total net employment, such as Manufacturing, will still have labor market exit openings (Table 16).

**Table 16. Twin Cities Metro Area Industry Projections, 2016-2026**

Industry	Estimated Employment 2016	Projected Employment 2026	Percent Change 2016-2026	Numeric Change 2016-2026
Total, All Industries	1,878,351	2,006,300	+6.8%	+127,949
Health Care & Social Assistance	253,908	307,119	+1.0%	+53,211
Manufacturing	169,852	160,446	-5.5%	-9,406
Retail Trade	168,136	170,889	+1.6%	+2,753
Educational Services	141,862	153,144	+8.0%	+11,282
Accommodation & Food Services	134,317	143,923	+7.2%	+9,606
Professional & Technical Services	134,088	153,380	+14.4%	+19,292
Finance & Insurance	111,652	118,079	+5.8%	+6,427
Administrative & Waste Services	103,946	106,959	+2.9%	+3,013
Public Administration	97,116	101,489	+4.5%	+4,373
Wholesale Trade	91,018	92,670	+1.8%	+1,652
Other Services	78,765	82,299	+4.5%	+3,534
Management of Companies	70,514	73,805	+4.7%	+3,291
Construction	66,153	71,315	+7.8%	+5,162
Transportation & Warehousing	65,315	67,307	+3.0%	+1,992
Information	36,574	37,542	+2.6%	+968
Arts & Entertainment	34,363	37,391	+8.8%	+3,028
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	27,179	28,203	+3.8%	+1,024
Utilities	5,568	5,426	-2.6%	-142
Agriculture	3,039	2,475	-18.6%	-564
Mining	666	798	+19.8%	+132

Source: DEED 2016-2026 Employment Outlook

## NONEMPLOYER ESTABLISHMENTS

The Metro Area was home to 243,564 self-employed businesses or “nonemployers” in 2018, which are defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as “businesses without paid employees that are subject to federal income tax, originating from tax return information of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).” The region did witness healthy growth in the number of nonemployers over the past decade, with the number of such firms increasing by 16.1%. Most growth was in Hennepin and Ramsey counties, with rapid growth also in Carver County. These non-employers generated sales receipts of nearly \$12.0 billion in 2018 (Table 17).

**Table 17. Nonemployer Statistics, 2018**

	2018		2008-2018	
	Number of Firms	Receipts (\$1,000s)	Change in Firms	Percent Change
<b>Metro Area</b>	<b>243,564</b>	<b>\$11,982,457</b>	<b>+33,720</b>	<b>+16.1%</b>
Anoka Co.	23,918	\$1,081,903	+1,645	+7.4%
Carver Co.	8,356	\$440,967	+1,286	+18.2%
Dakota Co.	30,500	\$1,443,779	+2,634	+9.5%
Hennepin Co.	110,717	\$5,836,151	+18,333	+19.8%
Ramsey Co.	39,771	\$1,704,312	+6,429	+19.3%
Scott Co.	11,234	\$578,709	+1,212	+12.1%
Washington Co.	19,068	\$896,636	+2,181	+12.9%
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>416,487</b>	<b>\$19,994,802</b>	<b>+29,503</b>	<b>+7.6%</b>

Source: U.S. Census, Nonemployer Statistics program

## CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Unlike other regions of Minnesota, agriculture is not a key industry in the Metro Area. Despite this, there were over 3,700 farms producing just over \$610 million in the market value of products sold in 2017, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. All of the counties in the planning region ranked in the bottom half of the state’s 87 counties for the market value of product sold in Agriculture, except for Dakota County (Table 18).

**Table 18. Census of Agriculture, 2017**

	Number of Farms	Market Value of Products Sold	State Rank
<b>Metro Area</b>	<b>3,743</b>	<b>\$611,422,000</b>	<b>10</b>
Anoka Co.	360	\$67,759,000	63
Carver Co.	689	\$111,378,000	58
Dakota Co.	820	\$235,415,000	37
Hennepin Co.	467	\$58,570,000	67
Ramsey Co.	55	\$2,951,000	85
Scott Co.	740	\$75,570,000	61
Washington Co.	612	\$59,779,000	66
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>68,822</b>	<b>\$18,395,390,000</b>	

Source: 2017 Census of Agriculture